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Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development
First session
5–16 April 1999
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Contribution to the preparatory process for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.
4. Contribution to the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in providing safe water supply and sanitation for all during the 1990s, to be submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session.
5. Review of salient trends and issues on energy development and use in the context of sustainable development:
   (a) Environmentally sound and efficient fossil energy technologies;
   (b) Renewable sources of energy, with special emphasis on wind energy;
   (c) Development and implementation of rural energy policies;
   (d) Energy and transportation.
6. Issues related to assessment and management of land and water resources on an integrated basis.
7. Other matters.
8. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee.
9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session.

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 26 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee, as a subsidiary body of the Council, shall elect its own officers. The Committee may wish to elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda contains items on issues in the water and the energy sectors that emerged after the cancelled sessions respectively of the former Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development and it is also based on the provisional agendas for those cancelled sessions.

3. Contribution to the preparatory process for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

In resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, annex I, the Economic and Social Council called for a special relationship between the work programme of the Committee and that of the Commission on Sustainable Development, so as to ensure that the Committee's work programme would be structured in a manner that could enable it to contribute to the work of the Commission. In the multi-year work programme of the Commission, the sectoral theme of the ninth session of the Commission will be Atmosphere/Energy and the topic for the economic sector of the session will be Energy/Transport. Preparations for the ninth session of the Commission is to be initiated at its seventh session scheduled for 19–30 April 1999. Thus, the first session of the Committee would provide an opportunity for it to contribute substantively to the Commission's preparatory process at the very initial stage.

4. Contribution to the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in providing safe water supply and sanitation for all during the 1990s, to be submitted to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session

Taking into consideration the special relationship called for in Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 mentioned under item 3 above, as well as the request made to the Secretary-General, contained in General Assembly resolution 50/126 of 20 December 1995, to submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, through both the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session and the Council, the Committee at its first session could contribute to the preparation of that report.

Documentation for information

Report of the Secretary-General on freshwater, including clean and safe water supply and sanitation (E/1997/70)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in providing safe water supply and sanitation for all during the first half of the 1990s (A/50/213–E/1995/87)

5. **Review of salient trends and issues on energy development and use in the context of sustainable development**

(a) **Environmentally sound and efficient fossil energy technologies**

(b) **Renewable sources of energy, with special emphasis on wind energy**

(c) **Development and implementation of rural energy policies**

(d) **Energy and transportation**

In its decision 1996/303 of 26 July 1996, the Economic and Social Council emphasized the crucial role of energy in sustainable development, and the importance of adopting a proactive approach towards removing the obstacles and barriers hampering the development of new and renewable energy technologies.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on environmentally sound and efficient fossil energy technologies (E/C.13/1998/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on renewable sources of energy, with special emphasis on wind energy (E/C.13/1998/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the development and implementation of rural energy policies (E/C.13/1998/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on energy and transportation (E/C.13/1998/6)

6. **Issues related to assessment and management of land and water resources on an integrated basis**

At its third session, the former Committee on Natural Resources, in its resolution 3/7, requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the organs and organizations of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on issues related to the spatial planning of land resources (including minerals) and water resources, taking into account urban and rural development needs and food security requirements, as well as the protection of ecosystems.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on issues related to the spatial planning of land (including minerals) and water resources (E/C.7/1998/5)

7. **Other matters**

8. **Provisional agenda for the second session of the Committee**

9. **Adoption of the report of the Committee on its first session**